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June 29, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: In The Matter of Federal-State
Joint Board on Universal Service
(CCDocket No. 96-45) and
Forward Looking Mechanism for
High Cost Support for Non-Rural
LEC's (C Docket No. 97-160)

Dear Ms. Salas:

Enclosed hearwith for filing with the Commission are the original and five copies of Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc.'s comments in the above-captioned matter.

Please acknowledge receipt hereof be affixing a notation on the duplicate copy of this letter furnished herewith for such purposes and remitting same to bearer.

Very truly yours,

Donald J. Reed
Regulatory Affairs Manager

cc: **Sheryl Todd**
Accounting Policy Division
445 Twelfth Street, S.W. – Room 5-A523
Washington, D.C. 20544

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**Federal-State Joint Board on
Universal Service**

CC Docket No. 96-45


Forward – Looking Mechanism For High Cost Support for Non-Rural LEC's

CC Docket No. 97-160

Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc. submits its comments in response to the FCC's Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking issued on May 28, 1999 (FCC 99-120).

Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc. supports the elimination of the annual filing requirement for rural self certification and supports the requirement that carriers must file with the FCC when their rural carrier status changes.

Respectfully submitted,
Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc.



Donald J. Reed
1740 South Chugach
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Its Regulatory Affairs Manager

July 2, 1999